

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2926

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RH, SF, MZ

SUBJ: OAU SEC GEN SAYS MOZAMBIQUE CAN BE BASE FOR FREEDOM FIGHTERS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 3255

1. WE ARE INTRIGUED BY THE DIALOGUE WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON
CONCERNING OAU SEC GEN ETEKI'S REMARK IN DAR ON SEPT. 21
THAT INDEPENDENT MOZAMBIQUE CAN SERVE AS A FAVORABLE BASE OF
OPERATIONS FOR FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN SOUTHERN PART OF AFRICA AND
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CALLING ON MOZAMBIQUE TO OFFER ITSELF AS A BASE AGAINST COLONIAL

REGIMES. ETEKI WAS MORE MODERATE IN A STATEMENT HE MADE TO PRESS HERE ON SAME DAY. HE REPORTEDLY STATED THAT, ALTHOUGH OAU SUPPORTED SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA, "IT UNDERSTOOD THAT MOZAMBIQUE, AS WELL AS OTHER ISOLATED COUNTRIES SUCH AS MALAWI, LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND, ARE PRESENTLY OBLIGED TO MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA."

2. WE NOTE IN FBIS KINSHASA DOMESTIC SERVICE BROADCAST SEPTEMBER 23 THAT VISITING FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT MARCELLINO DOS SANTOS, WHEN ASKED ABOUT RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA, WAS QUOTED AS ANSWERING, "WE HAVE A PRINCIPLE... NONINTERFERENCE IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF SOUTH AFRICA ARE CONCERN OF SOUTH AFRICANS. WE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN OUR SOUTH AFRICAN BROTHERS. WE HAVE VERY GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE ANC..." THIS IS OF COURSE THE LINE THAT PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO TOOK IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 18.

3. ALSO NOTE THAT BRAZZAVILLE DOMESTIC SERVICE SEPTEMBER 25 IS QUOTED BY FBIS AS SAYING, "IN HIS FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE A FEW DAYS AGO, JOAQUIM CHISSANO, PRIME MINISTER OF THE FIRST PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE MADE MODERATE STATEMENT ON FREE MOZAMBIQUE'S FUTURE RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. BUT A FEW DAYS AFTER THIS STATEMENT, THE OAU SECRETARY GENERAL EXTEMPORANEOUSLY ANNOUNCED THAT MOZAMBIQUE WILL BE USED AS A BASE BY THE ZIMBABWE AND ZANU COMBATANTS...A FEW MONTHS AGO, WE HAD A SECRETARY GENERAL WHO WAS VERY MUCH NONPOLITICAL. WE KNOW WHAT THAT COST HIM. AND TODAY WE HAVE ANOTHER SECRETARY GENERAL, WHO FORGETTING THAT HE IS AN ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE, ALSO MAKES POLITICAL STATEMENTS... SINCE THE FRELIMO LEADERS RIGHTLY DESISTED FROM MAKING STATEMENTS REGARDING THEIR COUNTRY'S FUTURE, DO WE THEN HAVE ANY RIGHT, AS HAS BEEN BY PROVOCATEURS, TO REVEAL WHAT MUST REMAIN A SECRET?"

4. LOURENCO MARQUES DAILY NOTICIAS ON SEPTEMBER 21 QUOTED SAMORA MACHEL AS STELLING DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN DAR ES SALAAM THAT MOZAMBIQUE WOULD BECOME "A REVOLUTIONARY BASE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM IN AFRICA," ALTHOUGH HE DIDN'T SAY WHEN. FINALLY, NOTICIAS OF SEPTEMBER 27 CARRIED A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MESSAGE FROM SAMORA MACHEL TO THE MOZAMBIKAN PEOPLE WHICH TRACES THE HISTORY OF FRELIMO'S STRUGGLE, LINKING IT CLOSELY WITH THE STRUGGLE OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN ANGOLA AND GUINEA-BISSAU AND WITH THE ACTION OF THE AFM IN PORTUGAL. MACHEL SAID THAT THE STRUGGLE OF THE MOZAMBIKAN PEOPLE FORMS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE STRUGGLE FOR AFRICAN LIBERATION. HOWEVER, THE ENTIRE THRUST OF MACHEL'S REMARKS WAS DIRECTED TOWARD PORTUGUESE AFRICA AND HE MAKES NO MENTION OF SOUTHERN

AFRICA OR OF SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA SPECIFICALLY.

5. COMMENT: WHILE TOO EARLY TO PREDICT PRECISELY WHAT STEPS THE FRELIMO-DOMINATED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE WILL TAKE TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE IN JUNE 1975; WE HAVE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT PRIORITY NO. 1 FOR FRELIMO IS TO PUT ITS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER IN MOZAMBIQUE AND THAT WITH REGARD TO AFRICAN LIBERATION, FRELIMO IS MORE INTERESTED IN COMPLETING PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION IN PORTUGUESE AFRICA THAN IN ATTEMPTING ERADICATING SYSTEM OF APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA. FACT THAT DOS SANTOS, WHO IS SUPPOSEDLY THE MOST MILITANTLY "ANTI-COLONIALIST" AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST" FRELIMO LEADER REPEATED CHISSANO'S LINE CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA AND THAT CONGO BRAZZAVILLE OFFICIAL RADIO CRITICIZED ETEKI FOR HIS GRATUITOUS ADVICE TENDS TO SUBSTANTIATE THIS INTERPRETATION.
WALKER

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